

Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration

Communications & Outreach Support Division (41C2)
Washington, DC 20420
(202) 273-5221
FAX (202) 273-6698

www.cem.va.gov
public.inquiry@va.gov

NATIONAL CEMETERY

In the Sacramento Area

Solano County, California

- The 561-acre national cemetery site in Solano County, Calif., will serve veterans' needs for the next 50 years. Solano County is southwest of Sacramento.
- Master planning of the entire site, design development and preparation of construction documents for the first phase of development will occur in 2006. Burials are expected to begin in the Spring of 2007 in the initial "early turn over" development area of about three to five acres. This small-scale development is separate from the first phase construction project and allows for burials to begin prior to completion of the construction of the first phase of the cemetery. Initial operations will be conducted from a temporary office, committal service shelter and equipment shed.
- Carter & Burgess, an architect/engineering firm from Sacramento, has been awarded the contract to produce the master planning and design documents. VA expects to award a construction contract and begin phase one construction in late calendar year 2006.
- Sacramento was one of 10 areas VA identified in a report to Congress in 1994 as having a large veteran population not served by either a national or state veterans cemetery within a reasonable distance. In 1999 and 2003, with the passage of two laws, Congress directed VA to establish 12 new national cemeteries. One has been opened in Oklahoma and one in Pennsylvania. The rest – one in Alabama, two in California, three in Florida, one in Georgia, one in Michigan, one in Pennsylvania and one in South Carolina – will be located near large populations of veterans who currently do not have access to a burial option.
- VA prepared an Environmental Assessment for the Solano County site in September 2002. The Department of Veterans Affairs purchased the site from a private citizen in July 2004.
- More information on VA's National Cemetery Administration is available on its website, www.cem.va.gov.